

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /136 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8229

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2657

EO 11652: XGDS 1985

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PO

SUBJECT: REPORTED MASSACRE IN MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 466 AND 477

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SUMMARY: CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF VATICAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION

LISBON CONFIRMS THAT SOME ATROCITIES WERE COMMITTED IN TETE PROVINCE AT A VILLAGE WITH A NAME LIKE WIRIYAMU IN DEC. 1972. SOURCE BELIEVES SIMILAR ATROCITIES HAVE OCCURRED AT OTHER TIMES IN PAST, ALTHOUGH DIRECTLY CONTRARY TO PORTUGUESE POLICIES. SOURCE PREDICTS MAJOR POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS FROM MASSACRE ALLEGATIONS. END SUMMARY

1. MULLOR GARCIA, CURRENTLY CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF VATICAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN LISBON IN ABSENCE OF PAPAL NUNCIO (AN ABSENCE WHICH MULLOR GARCIA SAYS IS TOTALLY UNRELATED TO ATROCITY ALLEGATIONS) IS A SPANIARD WHO KNOWS PERSONALLY AT LEAST ONE OF THE BURGOS FATHERS WHO SUPPLIED INFORMATION TO FATHER ADRIAN HASTINGS WHICH RESULTED IN LONDON TIMES STORY ON WIRIYAMU MASSACRE. MULLOR GARCIA VISITED MOZAMBIQUE IN FEBRUARY 1972 AND IS ESPECIALLY WELL INFORMED ON CHURCH-RELATED AFFAIRS THERE. MULLOR GARCIA SAYS THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT THAT ATROCITIES SIMILAR TO THOSE DESCRIBED BY FATHER HASTINGS, ALTHOUGH PROBABLY LESS EXTENSIVE AND LURID, TOOK PLACE AT A VILLAGE IN TETE PROVINCE WITH A NAME SOMETHING LIKE WIRIYAMU. MULLOR GARCIA STATED THAT THIS IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE AMONG FOREIGN MISSIONARIES IN MOZAMBIQUE AND THAT THE BISHOP OF TETE, THE TETE BRANCH OF THE MOZAMBIQUE RED CROSS, AND THE SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH OF THE PORTUGUESE ARMY IN MOZAMBIQUE HAVE ALL PROTESTED THE EVENT TO GOP AUTHORITIES, AS DID LATE BISHOP OF BEIRA. HE SAID WIRIYAMU INCIDENT IS SEPARATE FROM UMCUMBURA MASSACRE OF DEC. 1971, PROTESTS OVER WHICH BY WHITE FATHERS LED TO THEIR EXPULSION. PROTESTS BY SPANISH BURGOS PRIESTS OVER WIRIYAMU INCIDENT LED MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS TO CANCEL THEIR RESIDENCE PERMITS EARLIER THIS YEAR.

2. MULLOR GARCIA DISCUSSED WIRIYAMU INCIDENTS WITH MISSIONARIES DURING TRIP TO MOZAMBIQUE IN FEB. 1973. HE SAYS THAT A VILLAGE WHOSE NAME AND LOCATION WERE MORE OR LESS AS DESCRIBED IN LONDON TIMES PIECE WAS DESTROYED (AND VILLAGERS KILLED) BY AFRICAN "COMMANDO" UNIT OPERATING UNDER CONTROL OF ACCOMPANYING SECURITY POLICE (DGS) AGENTS, INCLUDING WHITES. HE IS SKEPTICAL THAT AS MANY

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AS 400 VILLAGERS COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED BUT HE HINTED THAT THE NUMBER MIGHT WELL BE CALCULATED IN THE HUNDREDS. HE SAID HE WAS CERTAIN THAT, INTER ALIA, 14 AFRICAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN HAD BEEN BURNED TO DEATH IN A HUT. MULLOR GARCIA SAID THAT THE PORTUGUESE ARMY IN MOZAMBIQUE WAS NOT INVOLVED IN INCIDENT BUT RATHER WAS UPSET BY IT. HE FELT, HOWEVER, THAT C-IN-C KAULZA DE ARRIAGA HAD BEEN LESS THAN FORCEFUL IN CONDUCTING FULL INVESTIGATIONS

AND DEMANDING PUNISHMENT FOR CULPRITS IN CASES LIKE THIS.

3. WE HAVE HEARD FROM GOOD SOURCE THAT EARLIER THIS YEAR PM CAETANO WAS DISTRESSED BY REPORTS OF A MASSACRE IN MOZAMBIQUE, AND DECIDED TO SACK KAULZA, WHICH HE HAS NOW DONE. IT WORTH NOTING THAT THUS FAR CAETANO HAS NOT DENIED WIRIYAMU INCIDENT OCCURRED, POSSIBLY BECAUSE HE BELIEVES A MASSACRE TOOK PLACE, AND DOES NOT WANT TO BE CAUGHT LATER HAVING COVERED IT UP. THIS APPEARS CONSISTENT WITH MULLOR GARCIA'S REPORT.

4. MULLOR GARCIA SAYS HE HAS EXCELLENT GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT GENERAL SPINOLA, NOW C-IN-C IN GUINEA, WILL REPLACE KAULZA IN MOZAMBIQUE AND WILL INAUGURATE AN URBAN, HUMANE POLICY THERE, AS HE HAS DONE IN GUINEA. MULLOR GARCIA NOTES THAT PRIME MINISTER CAETANO DID NOT RECITE TRADITIONAL GOP DOGMA WHEN ASKED IN BBC INTERVIEW WHEN PORTUGAL WOULD GRANT INDEPENDENCE TO OVERSEAS TERRITORIES. "I'M NOT ABLE MYSELF TO GIVE IT OR NOT. INDEPENDENCE IS A SOLUTION WHICH ONLY PEOPLES CAN RESOLVE."

5. MULLOR GARCIA BELIEVES THAT INCIDENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE REPRESENT A MAJOR POLITICAL EVENT FOR THE CAETANO GOVERNMENT, AND MAY STRENGTHEN HAND OF THOSE SEEKING TO SPEED UP SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR THE OVERSEAS TERRITORIES. IN SHORT RUN, IT POSSIBLE THAT, IN ADDITION TO KAULZA'S DEPARTURE, OTHER CHANGES WILL BE MADE.
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